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EIC-M-49

ECONOMIC INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting Held in
Room 2125, Temporary "M" Building
26th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W.

20 December 1955

PRESENT

25X1A9a Dr. Otto E. Guthe, CIA, Chairman
[REDACTED] CIA, Vice Chairman
Mr. Bennett Davis, Navy
Mr. Edward Doherty, State
Mr. John Easton, JCS
Mr. Kingsley Hamilton, Air Force
Mr. Duncan Holmes, Army
Commander Burns Spore, Navy
Mr. Earl Coxe, Army, Chairman, Subcommittee on Transportation*
[REDACTED] Executive Secretary, Subcommittee on Transportation*
EIC/S
25X1A9a [REDACTED] EIC/S
[REDACTED], EIC, Executive Secretary

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. The minutes of the EIC meeting of 10 November 1955 (EIC-M-48) were approved.

APPROVAL OF STATEMENT ON GENERAL CONCEPT AND FUNCTIONS OF EIC SUBCOMMITTEES

2. Action: The statement "General Concept and Functions of EIC Subcommittees", dated 16 December 1955, was approved by the EIC after minor modifications. The Secretariat was instructed to furnish copies of the approved statement to all members of the EIC and its subcommittees.

REVIEW OF SUBCOMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

4. Discussion: It was suggested that the EIC should revive its former practice of regularly scheduling a full review of the activities

*Present only during part of meeting - to discuss Transportation Sub-committee proposals.

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of one or two subcommittees at each EIC meeting so that all would be considered during the course of a year. It was agreed that the present review of all the subcommittees should not take the place of this fuller examination, but would serve primarily to identify those subcommittees with problems which appeared to require early review and possible guidance.

4. Action: It was determined that the activities of the following subcommittees should be scheduled for earliest EIC review: Armaments, Chemicals, General Economic Analysis, International Trade and Finance, and Electric Power and Solid Fuels (which should be considered together with Petroleum). The remaining subcommittees will be scheduled for EIC review at later meetings.

PROPOSED INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP ON TRANSPORTATION PROBLEMS

5. Discussion: The chairman of the EIC Subcommittee on Transportation was asked to explain his subcommittee's recommendations (embodied in their annual report) for the establishment of a full-time interdepartmental transportation working group. It was brought out that G-2 was planning to establish such a group and to extend invitations to other interested IAC agencies to participate. The chairman would be provided by G-2, and also would report to the EIC. It was envisaged that this group would undertake assignments for the EIC Subcommittee on Transportation (such as, initially, the completion of the study for WSEG), and also would undertake projects for G-2 and other participating agencies. Dr. Guthe welcomed this development and noted that ORR/CIA would plan to participate.

REVISION OF EIC-R-9, "CAPABILITY OF THE TRANS-SIBERIAN RAILROAD AND CONNECTING LINES IN MANCHURIA AND KOREA"

6. Discussion: The Executive Secretary of the Transportation Subcommittee presented the subcommittee's recommendation for establishment of an ad hoc working group to undertake a revision of the agreed estimate of the capability of the Trans-Siberian Railroad and its connecting lines into Manchuria and Korea, which had been published as EIC-R-9 several years ago. Acting on the IAC-approved recommendations in EIC-R1-S4 that an early revision of the EIC-R-9 estimates was desirable, a working group of the subcommittee had drawn up tentative terms of reference for such a revision, and an informal agreement had been reached as to the allocation of responsibilities for producing the principal contributions.

7. Action: The EIC formally approved the undertaking of the proposed revision of EIC-R-9 by an ad hoc working group of the Transportation Subcommittee.

COORDINATION OF EXCHANGE OF VISITORS WITH COUNTRIES OF THE SINO-SOVIET BLOC

The Ch

8. The Chairman outlined certain intelligence support problems which were arising as a result of increased inquiries to the Department of State regarding travel in this country by visitors from the Bloc and, reciprocally, travel of U. S. Nationals in Bloc countries. Members of the intelligence community already had been asked for advice on several occasions. The Chairman asked the views of the members as to the suitability of using EIC standing subcommittees in appropriate future cases.

9. Action: It was agreed that the Chairman should explore this matter further and report his recommendations to the Economic Intelligence Committee.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEW MEMBERS

10. The Secretariat distributed lists of the new representatives recently designated to the EIC and its various subcommittees and working groups.

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Distribution:

Doherty, State - 2
Wiedemann, State - 1
Jones, State - 1
Postlethwait, Army - 2
Baird, Air Force - 2
Spore, Navy - 2
Easton, JCS - 2
Kenny, OSD - 1
Schnellbacher, Commerce - 1
Charrette, ICA - 1
Shooshan, Interior - 1

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